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HAIR OILS

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

5 This invention relates to hair oils which incorporate a specific blend of oil types and which have enhanced sensory properties.

BACKGROUND OF INVENTION AND PRIOR ART

10 Consumers oil hair both pre wash and post wash. Pre wash oiling is done as it is believed that oils nourish hair and protect it during the wash process. Post wash oiling is done for manageability and styling. The oiling habit is 15 widely practised by around 800 million people across the Central Asia and Middle East region.

20 Coconut oil is by far the most common oil used in the Central Asia and Middle East region for hair care. It offers a high level of conditioning benefits, but with the drawback of greasy feel.

25 The present inventors have found that hair oils which incorporate a specific blend of oil types can deliver an equivalent level of conditioning benefits to coconut oil, but with superior sensory properties, in particular less greasy feel. A further advantage associated with hair oils according to the invention is enhanced penetration into the hair fibre.

DEFINITION OF THE INVENTION

The present invention provides a hair oil comprising a blend of:

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(i) from 10% to 95%, by weight based on total weight, of a first oily component which is one or more glyceride fatty esters, and

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(ii) from 5% to 90%, by weight based on total weight, of a second oily component which is one or more hydrocarbon oils of average carbon chain length less than 20 carbon atoms.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

(i) Glyceride Fatty Ester

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By "glyceride fatty esters" is meant the mono-, di-, and tri-esters formed between glycerol and long chain carboxylic acids such as C₆-C₃₀ carboxylic acids. The carboxylic acids may be saturated or unsaturated or contain hydrophilic groups such as hydroxyl.

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Preferred glyceride fatty esters are derived from carboxylic acids of carbon chain length ranging from C₆ to C₂₄, preferably C₁₀ to C₂₂, most preferably C₁₂ to C₁₈.

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Suitable glyceride fatty esters for use in hair oils of the invention will generally have a viscosity at ambient

temperature (25 to 30°C) of from 0.01 to 0.8 Pa.s, preferably from 0.015 to 0.6 Pa.s, more preferably from 0.02 to 0.065 Pa.s as measured by a Carri-Med CSL2 100 controlled stress rheometer, from TA Instruments Inc., New Castle,

5 Delaware (USA).

A variety of these types of materials are present in vegetable and animal fats and oils, such as camellia oil, coconut oil, castor oil, safflower oil, sunflower oil,

10 peanut oil, cottonseed oil, corn oil, olive oil, cod liver oil, almond oil, avocado oil, palm oil, sesame oil, lanolin and soybean oil. These have various ranges of carbon chain lengths depending on the source, typically between about 12 to about 18 carbon atoms. Synthetic oils include

15 trimyristin, triolein and tristearin glyceryl dilaurate. Vegetable derived glyceride fatty esters are particularly preferred, and specific examples of preferred materials for inclusion in hair oils of the invention as sources of glyceride fatty esters include almond oil, castor oil, 20 coconut oil, sesame oil, sunflower oil and soybean oil. Coconut oil, sunflower oil, almond oil and mixtures thereof are particularly preferred.

The glyceride fatty ester may be present in hair oils of the 25 invention as a single material or as a blend.

The total content of glyceride fatty ester in hair oils of the invention suitably ranges from 10% to 95%, preferably from 20% to 80%, by weight based on total weight of the hair 30 oil.

(ii) Hydrocarbon Oil

Suitable hydrocarbon oils include cyclic hydrocarbons, straight chain aliphatic hydrocarbons (saturated or 5 unsaturated), and branched chain aliphatic hydrocarbons (saturated or unsaturated). Straight chain hydrocarbon oils will typically contain from about 6 to about 16 carbon atoms, preferably from about 8 up to about 14 carbon atoms. Branched chain hydrocarbon oils can and typically may 10 contain higher numbers of carbon atoms, e.g. from about 6 up to about 20 carbon atoms, preferably from about 8 up to about 18 carbon atoms.

Suitable hydrocarbon oils of the invention will generally 15 have a viscosity at ambient temperature (25 to 30°C) of from 0.0001 to 0.5 Pa.s, preferably from 0.001 to 0.05 Pa.s, more preferably from 0.001 to 0.02 Pa.s as measured by a Carri-Med CSL2 100 controlled stress rheometer, from TA Instruments Inc., New Castle, Delaware (USA).

A preferred hydrocarbon oil is light mineral oil. Mineral oils are clear oily liquids obtained from petroleum oil, from which waxes have been removed, and the more volatile fractions removed by distillation. The fraction distilling 25 between 250°C to 300°C is termed mineral oil, and it consists of a mixture of hydrocarbons, in which the number of carbon atoms per hydrocarbon molecule generally ranges from C₁₀ to C₄₀. Mineral oil may be characterised in terms of its viscosity, where light mineral oil is relatively less 30 viscous than heavy mineral oil, and these terms are defined

more specifically in the U.S. Pharmacopoeia, 22nd revision, p. 899 (1990). A commercially available example of a suitable light mineral oil for use in the invention is Sirius M40 (carbon chain length C₁₀-C₂₈, mainly C₁₂-C₂₀,

5 viscosity 4.3 × 10⁻³ Pa.s), available from Silkolene.

Other hydrocarbon oils that may be used in the invention include relatively lower molecular weight hydrocarbons including linear saturated hydrocarbons such as a tetradecane,

10 hexadecane, and octadecane, cyclic hydrocarbons such as dioctylcyclohexane (e.g. CETIOL S from Henkel), branched chain hydrocarbons (e.g. ISOPAR L and ISOPAR V from Exxon Corp.).

15 The hydrocarbon oil may be present in hair oils of the invention as a single material or as a blend.

The total content of hydrocarbon oil in hair oils of the invention suitably ranges from 5% to 90%, preferably from

20 20% to 80%, by weight based on total weight of the hair oil.

The glyceride fatty ester:hydrocarbon oil weight ratio in hair oils of the invention may suitably range from 95:5 to 5:95, preferably from 90:10 to 10:90, most preferably from 25 80:20 to 20:80. Particularly preferred are blends of [coconut oil and/or sunflower oil and/or almond oil] and light mineral oil, in which the [coconut oil and/or sunflower oil and/or almond oil]:light mineral oil weight ratio is 60:40.

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Other Oily Materials

Other oily materials may also be present in combination with the hydrocarbon oils and glyceride fatty esters in hair oils of the invention. Suitable additional oily materials include other fatty esters, fatty alcohols and fatty ethers.

In general, fatty esters, fatty alcohols and ethers are characterised by having at least 10 carbon atoms, and include esters and ethers with hydrocarbyl chains derived from fatty acids or alcohols, e.g., monocarboxylic acid esters, polyhydric alcohol esters, and di- and tricarboxylic acid esters and ethers, and fatty alcohols with a carbon chain carbon chain length of between 10 and 18, e.g. lauryl alcohol, cetyl alcohol or cetostearyl alcohol.

Examples include isopropyl myristate, isopropyl palmitate, cetearyl isononanoate, cetearyl octanoate, diethylene glycol monoethyl ether oleate, dicaprylyl ether, caprylic acid/capric acid propylene glycol diester and mixtures of any of the above.

The total content of other oily material in hair oils of the invention suitably ranges from 0.01% to 50%, preferably from 1.0% to 20%, by weight based on total weight of the hair oil.

Product Form

Compositions of this invention are preferably in anhydrous form, i.e. used as neat hair oil.

Optional Ingredients

Compositions of this invention may contain any other ingredient normally used in hair treatment formulations.

5 These other ingredients may include, viscosity modifiers, preservatives, colouring agents, polyols such as glycerine and polypropylene glycol, chelating agents such as EDTA, antioxidants such as BHT (butylhydroxytoluene), vitamin E acetate, fragrances, antimicrobials and sunscreens and lipid 10 soluble ingredients e.g. fatty acids or sterols. Each of these ingredients will be present in an amount effective to accomplish its purpose. Generally these optional ingredients are included individually at a level of up to about 5% by weight of the total hair oil.

15 The invention is further illustrated by way of the following Examples, in which all percentages are by weight based on total weight unless otherwise stated.

EXAMPLES

Formulation Examples:		Control/ Benchmark	Example 1	Example 2	Example 3	Example 4
Triglycerides						
Coconut oil	100%	60%	60%	60%	60%	
Castor oil	-	5%	-	-	-	
Almond oil	-	-	-	5%	-	
Sunflower oil	-	-	5%	-	-	
Hydrocarbon oils						
Light mineral oil	-	20%	35%	35%	40%	
Other oily materials						
Isopropyl palmitate	-	15%	-	-	-	
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	
Formulation Performances						
Greasy feel	72.8	61.7	58.9	54.7	61.1	
Ease of combing	74.8	75.6	70.4	74.7	70.3	

The formulation performances such as greasy feel and ease of

5 combing were evaluated using sensory panels. Results are
give in normalised values. A preferred formulation will
have similar "ease-of-combing" as the control/benchmark
coconut oil and a significantly lower "greasy feel".

10 Oil penetration into the hair fibre was measured using
fluorescence techniques on oiled hair cross-sections using a
lipid soluble fluorescent dye. Results showed that mixing
light hydrocarbon oil to the hair oils improves
significantly the total oil penetration into the hair fibre.

15 Data are given in the following Table:

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	Retained fluorescence intensity
Non oiled hair	0 cps
control/benchmark	1722 cps
Example 3	110965 cps